take all necessary steps. In the very prestigious hospitals in Kerala, separate Wards for keeping these AIDS infected patients are not there.

MR. SPEAKER: May be they are more particular about it?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I would request the Government to provide all necessary infrastructure there so that this will not increase and cause ill health to the people.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, I do not want to comment on this issue. I am on some other issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hope and pray that it is not there and let us take all precautions that it should not be there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, Reports are appearing in the newspapers about AIDS. I agree with my colleagues. The point is that there must be more medical facilities for this. The patients are coming. I do not deny that. But he should not have put this point in this way that it becomes an insult to the people of Kerala.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: That is not my intention.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, I am on a different issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: One minute. As you are on a different issue, so I am allowing Prof Kurien.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The Government may be having more information. Let us have the information from him.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Day before yesterday.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles, what is this? I have allowed you so many times. Why do not your wait for some time? I am allowing you.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Sir, the hon. Member is trying to create an impression as if there is an excess of AIDS patients in a particular State. It is not correct, Sir.

Sir, I would request you that if there is an allegation like that, that should be removed from the records. It is not correct.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITAHLA: Sir, a lot of reports are appearing in the newspapers about the rejection of the proposal for Bombay High - Kochi gas pipeline by the inter - ministerial committee of Central Government. It is reported that it is unfeasible and these reports have caused shock and consternation in the State.

The politicians, planners and environmental groups in the State were unanimous in their advocacy of the natural gas pipeline from Bombay offshore to Kochi.

This pipeline would be highly helpful for the industrial growth of Kerala. The other day, Members from Kerala have raised the question of Kayamkulam Thermal Project. It is highly shocking that the proposal for a Bombay High-Kochi gas pipeline is also rejected by the inter - ministerial committee of the Government.

> "The recommendation by the nine-member committee appointed by the Union Petroleum Ministry against the pipeline proposal is seen here as a blow to the State which had seen the project as offering a

non-controversial, long -term solution to the acute power crisis that has been the State's greatest bottleneck in industrial development for the last two decades."

May I request the Government to immediately look into this? The Chief Minister of Kerala came here and made a representation to the Ministry of Petroleum; he was pursuing this matter. For the last two decades, we are waiting for this.

It will not help the Kerala State but all the southern state will be benefited by this grid. So, may I request the hon. Minister and the Government to look into this? If it is rejected, it should be reconsidered for industrial development of Kerala.

RE: TEHRI DAM

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise such an issue before you on which I would expect an assistance also from you. The question on Tehri Dam has been raised so many times in the House and a number of statements have also been made on it by the Government. Mr. Speaker Sir, recently, about 10 to 12 days back, Sunder Lal Bhuguna, who is a leader of this movement has started hunger strike. His lunger strike has completed 20 today. Before starting the hunger strike, he had staged a *Dharna* some 2 to 4 days back in Tehri. The police not only arrested him but the people who were sitting with him were also beaten up by the goondas and has tried to make them run away from there by opposing him in a very rude manner. After it sunder Lalji was arrested and sent to Roorkee jail. He started hunger stride in Rookee jail. Later on, the Government decided to release him and the District Magistrate released him but Shri Sunder Lalji has started hunger strike/again after reaching Tehri. As I have already said that he has completed 20 days of his hunger stride, I do not want to discuss the various aspects of the case, but I would like to draw your attention on some authentic news which have been published in the newspapers during the last 3-4 days. According to the news there are some statements made by the Environmental Minister, Kamal Nath that his Ministry opposes the dam firmly. His Ministry is not only opposing the environmental conditions of the region but is also opposing the situations which crop up after the earthquake.

Now a new situation has been created and the money which was to be given by Russia for the dam, has been stopped. I have got one other information through some letters received from there that the contractors are doing the construction work of the dam with thir own money because the Government is unable to provide the amount. Plastering work is in progress there. The whole of the arrangements and the situation are under the control of the contractors. They are carrying out the construction work of the dam as if they are the owners of the land and the country without paying any heed to the administration. Perhaps they are sure that they will get their payment. I know that this matter is a bone of contention for the Government but here I have a copy of the letter which Bahugunaji has written to the Prime Minister and copy has been sent to us. This letter is of 15th i.e. of three days earlier. There is a mention of the meeting held with the Prime Minister. It has also been mentioned in the letter how did the Prime Minister realised the gravity of the problem sympathetically and Shri Sunder Lalji was very much confident that this matter would be resolved but there is no progress at all in this regard.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I am worried about the